

## Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00

TRSE-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 CIEP-01 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 SAB-01 /071 W  
----- 019163

R 232155Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2619

INFO USSOUTHCOM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 7299

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PN

SUBJECT: BANANAS: GOP PUBLICLY ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH UNITED  
BRANDS (UB)

REF: PANAMA 7242

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AT PRESS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 21, GENERAL  
TORRIJOS REPORTED-INTER ALIA-THE CONCLUSION PREVIOUS DAY OF A GOP/UB  
AGREEMENT WHICH PROTECTED "THE NATION'S DIGNITY AND ECONOMY".  
HE POINTED OUT THAT THE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF UB'S ASSETS  
HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE BANANA WORKERS' UNION AND THAT THE TERMS  
OF THE AGREEMENT WILL BE MADE PUBLIC UPON APPROVAL BY UB'S PARENT  
COMPANY, STANDARD BRANDS CO. IN BOSTON.

2. THE GENERAL WENT ON TO REPORT THAT THE AGREEMENT REACHED WAS BASED  
ON A THREE TO FOUR YEAR PHASED TRANSFER OF UB'S INFRA-STRUCTURE TO THE

STATE, BEGINNING WITH THE TRANSFER OF UNUSED LAND. THE GOP, HOWEVER,  
RESERVED THE RIGHT TO TAKE OVER UB'S ASSETS ANYTIME WITHIN THAT PERIOD

UPON A NINETY-DAY NOTICE. GOP FORESAW NO PROBLEMS AS TO PRODUCTION

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AND SHIPPING, BUT PANAMA MUST LEARN MARKETING THE MOST DIFFICULT

PHASE OF THE BANANA OPERATION. FOR THE TIME BEING "A STANDARD  
TAX RECOMMENDED BY THE UNION OF BANANA EXPORTING COUNTRIES  
REMAIN IN EFFECT". END UNCLASSIFIED

3. COMMENT. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. INTERESTING THOUGH GOP  
MADE NO REFERENCE TO UB'S BACK TAX PROBLEM. EMBASSY WILL TRY TO  
GET MORE DETAILS FROM GOP OFFICIALS CONCERNED, NOTWITHSTANDING  
THE HOLIDAY SEASON. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.  
JORDEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, BANANAS, TAXES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974PANAMA07299  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740373-0402  
**From:** PANAMA  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 74 PANAMA 7242  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 SEP 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BANANAS: GOP PUBLICLY ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH UNITED BRANDS (UB)  
**TAGS:** ETRD, PN, UNITED BRANDS (UB)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005